Reference code: GB165-0533
Title: George Edwards Collection
Name of creator: Edwards, George Robert (1903-1988) Lance Corporal Royal Engineers
Dates of creation of material: 1940-1944
Level of description: Fonds
Extent: 1 box

Biographical history: Edwards, George Robert (1903-1988) Lance Corporal Royal Engineers
George Edwards was born in 1903 in Sutton, Surrey which is now called the London Borough of Sutton and lived there all his life. He was the second eldest of 10 children and he and four of his brothers fought in World War Two, all survived the war. George Edwards was a skilled amateur photographer, and engineer. He was married to Annie (Nan) nee Burdfield and they had one son, John, who was killed in a motorcycle accident in London in the 1970’s. He was a Church Warden for the church of St Nicholas in Sutton and worked for the Gas Board. After retirement his hobbies were breeding budgerigars and growing vegetables in his garden. He served in the Royal Engineers throughout the war which he spent in Libya, Egypt, Syria and Palestine. He was associated with R.E.M.E. 1 Base workshop, at some time according to an undated inscription on a tankard presented to him by the Corporals Club there. He was a very kind and tolerant man. He died in 1988.

Scope and content: 3 photograph albums from George Robert Edwards’ Army service in the Royal Engineers covering Egypt, Libya, Syria and Palestine 1940-1944, including photographs of ancient and touristic sites in all four countries, street scenes and scenes of local life, fellow soldiers, the Suez Canal, the Nile, cities, photographs from the war, including armaments, wrecked vehicles and casualties, scenes from the King’s Birthday celebrations and scenes from the Holy Land.

System of arrangement:
1. Album 1 Egypt, 1940-1944
2. Album 2 Libya, 1941-1943
3. Album 3 Syria and Palestine 1942-1943

Access conditions: Open
Language of material: English
Conditions governing reproduction: No restrictions on copying or quotation other than statutory regulations and preservation concerns. Copyright in images taken by George Edwards has been assigned to the Archive.

Custodial history: In the possession of George Edwards and subsequently in the possession of Christine Searle.

Immediate source of acquisition: Received as a gift from Christine Searle (niece of George Edwards) on 5 May 2011

Finding aids: Photographic Collection Guide; Handlist

**FILE AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE GEORGE EDWARDS COLLECTION**

**Album 1 Egypt, 1940-1944**

Captions and dates are from the original album

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1/88 “Heliopolis” A Very Modern City Near Cairo. There Are Many Unique Buildings in this Town Worth Seeing – Palace Hotel, Over 400 Rooms

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Unique Buildings in this Town Worth Seeing – Modern Buildings in Heliopolis

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Scenes at “Ataka” near Suez
Scenes at “Ataka” near Suez
No Original Caption
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Taken from the Deck Of Our Ship
Taken from the Deck Of Our Ship – Fruit vendors at “Freetown,”
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Scenes on Board the H.M.T. Elizabethville on Voyage Out
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No Original Caption
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**Album 2: Libya, 1941-1943**

Captions and dates are from the original album

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2/15  Three of the Passes through Cyrenaica on the Way to Tripoli – Jan 1943 Sollum Pass
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2/49 Aerodromes at Fuka, Derna, El Adam, Bengassi & Castel Benito. Wrecks in the Western Desert – Junkers 88
2/50 Aerodromes at Fuka, Derna, El Adam, Bengassi & Castel Benito. Wrecks in the Western Desert – Junkers 52
2/51 Aerodromes at Fuka, Derna, El Adam, Bengassi & Castel Benito. Wrecks in the Western Desert – Junkers 52
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Derna Aerodrome
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No Original Caption
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2/91  Tobruk Harbour with Its Many Sunken Ships. 42 Wrecks in All
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**Album 3: Syria and Palestine, Aug 1942- Feb 1943**

Captions and dates are from the original album

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3/11 Baalbeck, Syria – Temple of Baakuss [Bacchus]
3/12 Baalbeck, Syria – Temple Ruins

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<td>River Orontes, Homs, Syria</td>
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<td>7000 Ft Above Sea Level</td>
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<td>An Arab Well, Fakie</td>
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<td>Over the Pass, 9000 Ft.</td>
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Christmas 1943
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<td>Drawing Water in Syria</td>
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Leave in Aug. 1942

3/102 Degania B. Collective Settlement in Palestine. Spent 14 Days

Aug 1942

3/103 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

Aug 1942

3/104 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

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3/105 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

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3/106 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

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3/107 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

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3/108 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

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3/109 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

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3/110 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

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3/111 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

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3/112 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

Aug 1942

3/113 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

Aug 1942

3/114 Degania B. And Its Settlers, A Children’s Paradise

Aug 1942

3/115 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

Sept 1942

3/116 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

Sept 1942

3/117 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

Sept 1942

3/118 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

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3/119 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

Sept 1942

3/120 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

Sept 1942

3/121 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

Sept 1942

3/122 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

Sept 1942

3/123 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

Sept 1942

3/124 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

Sept 1942

3/125 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel

Sept 1942

3/126 Haifa. Palestine. From Mount Carmel – Orange Market

Sept 1942

3/127 Jerusalem, Palestine – New Jerusalem From Tower of YMCA Building

3/128 Jerusalem, Palestine – New Jerusalem From Tower of YMCA Building

3/129 Jerusalem, Palestine – Mount Olives

3/130 Jerusalem, Palestine – Mount Olives
3/131 Jerusalem, Palestine – On Balcony, YMCA Hostel
3/132 Jerusalem, Palestine – Myself
3/133 Jerusalem, Palestine – King Davids Tower
3/134 Jerusalem, Palestine – Myself
3/135 Jerusalem, Palestine – Donkey Ride to Mount Olives
3/136 Jerusalem, Palestine – 2500 X
3/137 Jerusalem, Palestine
3/138 Jerusalem, Palestine – British War Memorial
3/139 Via Dolorosa. The Way Of The Cross To Calvary
3/140 Jewish Lost Temple, In The Old City – Wailing Wall
3/141 Jewish Lost Temple, In The Old City – The Wailing Wall
3/142 A Street Inside the Old City
3/143 A Jewish Beggar [Beggar]
3/144 King Davids Tower, Old City
3/145 Tomb of the Virgin Mary.
3/146 Church of All Nations, Gethsemane
3/147 Herods Gate, Old City
3/148 Saint Omar Mosque
3/149 Jewish Children
3/150 Our Car Trip to the Dead Sea, Seven Sisters Road
3/151 The Holy Sepulchre
3/152 Jerusalem – King David’s Hotel
3/153 Jerusalem – Greek Service in the Holy Sepulchre
3/154 Jerusalem – Saint Omar Mosque
3/155 Jerusalem – The Walls of the Old City
3/156 Jerusalem – Courtyard, St. David’s Tower
3/157 Jerusalem – Valley of Jehoshaphat
3/158 Jerusalem – Gateway to the Old City
3/159 Jerusalem – In King David’s Tower
3/160 Jerusalem – Rachel’s Tomb
3/161 Haifa – View from Our Workshop, Mount Carmel
3/162 Haifa – Mountain Road, A Fine View
3/163 Haifa – Nordau Street
3/164 Haifa – Acre Bay From Mount Carmel
3/165 Haifa – Hershal Street
3/166 Haifa – Overlooking the Bay. The Lovely Views From Here Are the Best In Palestine
3/167 Haifa – Arab Quarters
3/168 Haifa – Bay of Acre
3/169 Tel E Viv [Tel Aviv ], The Most Modern Town In Palestine
3/170 A Palestine Vinyard
3/171 Tel E Viv [Tel Aviv ], The Most Modern Town In Palestine
3/172 A Walk Beside the Sea
3/173 Bathing Beach
3/174 A Tel E Viv [Tel Aviv]
3/175 A Palestine Policeman
3/176 Well Laid Out Street in Tel E Viv (Tel Aviv)
3/177 Haifa – A Street in Haifa
3/178 Haifa – A Palestine Arab Girl
3/179 Haifa – Arab Market, Haifa
3/180 Haifa – Arab Quarters, Haifa
3/181 Haifa – Arab Shops, Haifa
3/182 Haifa – A Hebrew Bookshop
3/183 Haifa – Palestine Bedouins
3/184 Haifa – Evening [Evening] Sunset, Haifa
3/186 Jericho – The Dead Sea Aug 1943
3/187 Jericho – River Aran, Palestine Aug 1943
3/189 Jericho – A Shepherd with his Flock of Goats Aug 1943
3/190 Jericho – The Road Down To Tiberious [Tiberius] 400 Feet Below Sea Level Aug 1943
3/191 Jericho – The Dead Sea, A Queer Experience Aug 1943
3/192 Jericho – The Road Through Palestine Aug 1943
3/193 St. Luke’s Church, Haifa. A Small Church. We Used to Attend The Sunday Evening Service – St. Luke’s
St. Luke’s Church, Haifa. A Small Church. We Used to Attend The Sunday Evening Service – The Alter [Altar]

St. Luke’s Church, Haifa. A Small Church. We Used to Attend The Sunday Evening Service – Inside the Church

Our Pets at Douglas House, Haifa

Arab Father & Child

A Scorpion. A Most Unwelcome Visitor To Share Your Bed With

The Bay of Alre, Haifa

Khayat Beach, Haifa

Elies Pool at Jericho

Crusaders Cave in Acre

Acre, Palestine

Scene of the Christian Massacre

Arab Cultivation

The Walls of Acre. 15 Ft Thick

An Arab with his Goat Herb [Herd]


The Dead Sea

One of Our Sites near Haifa

Afikim, a Settlement near Tiberious, Palestine, That We Spent a Day of Our Leave – Children from the Settlement

Afikim, a Settlement near Tiberious, Palestine, That We Spent a Day of Our Leave – Helping Yourself

Afikim, a Settlement near Tiberious, Palestine, That We Spent a Day of Our Leave – The Dining Hall

Afikim, a Settlement near Tiberious, Palestine, That We Spent a Day of Our Leave – In The Pool

Afikim, a Settlement near Tiberious, Palestine, That We Spent a Day of Our Leave – Ray, Myself & a Friend

Afikim, a Settlement near Tiberious, Palestine, That We Spent a Day of Our Leave – Myself

Afikim, a Settlement near Tiberious, Palestine, That We Spent a
Day of Our Leave – Bananas?

3/218 Afikim, a Settlement near Tiberious, Palestine, That We Spent a
Day of Our Leave – Enjoying a Swim

3/219 River Jordan, Looking Towards TransJordan

3/220 The River Jordan, Palestine

3/221 Where the River Jordan Enters the Sea of Galelee [Galilee]

3/222 Police Check Post, Haifa

3/223 Capernaum

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3/225 On the Farm. Degania

3/226 A Palestine Panorama

3/227 Trees and Shrubs in Palestine – Palm Avenue

3/228 Trees and Shrubs in Palestine – Ceder [Cedar]

3/229 Trees and Shrubs in Palestine – Date Palm

3/230 Trees and Shrubs in Palestine – Yucca Cactus

3/231 Trees and Shrubs in Palestine – Prickly Pears. These Are Quite
Good to Eat

3/232 Trees and Shrubs in Palestine – Prickly Pear Cactus

3/233 Degania, Settlement

3/234 Degania, Farm Buildings

3/235 View of Palestine from Degania

3/236 Threshing Corn, Palestine

3/237 Syd & Myself, Bethleham. [Bethlehem]

3/238 Palestine from Hebrew University [?]

3/239 Road by the Sea of Galilee

3/240 Lake Tiberious

3/241 Palestine to Syria Road

3/242 A Stop in the Sini [Sinai?] 

3/243 On the Roof of Our Digs in Haifa

3/244 On the Road through Palestine, A Halt For Lunch

3/245 Outside Mother Marys Tomb, Near Jerusalem

3/246 Palestine Arabs

3/247 Sunset over Haifa
3/248  A Welcome Cup of Shay? Or tea
3/249  Our Mess, Haifa
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3/272  Flowers of the Holy Land – Bethlehem Star
3/273  Flowers of the Holy Land – Iris Helenae
3/275  Flowers of the Holy Land – Rose of Sharon
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3/277  Olive
3/278  Maritime Squill
3/279  Venus Looking Glass
3/280  Very Tastey [Tasty] and Sweet
3/281  Ashdot Yokav, Settlement, Palestine